

THE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOD TIMES

WELCOME BACK
Issue ----
the good news before
the bad (report cards?)

Vol. 4 #1

Michigan Ave. School, Paw Paw, Mich.

October 7, 1977

FIRST FALL ASSEMBLY

The middle school music classes today presented a concert in an assembly second hour. Under the direction of Mrs. Herm, the 7th and 8th grade choir sang popular music and presented surprise events, including a gong show.

YEARBOOK ORGANIZING

Well, it's back to school and time to get on the yearbook staff. The first meeting of the year will be held October 13 in Ms. Ruggles' room, room 103. Everyone is welcome to join. You will need to be able to meet with the staff at least once a week from November until late February. The staff meets two nights a week, usually, during that time. If you decide to join, please be sure and get your bus passes at lunch time. by D.T.

GRAPE GRIPES

Grape and Wine Festival this year was held outside of Paw Paw at the Van Buren fair grounds. In an informal polling of the middle school students, the feeling was that the festival wasn't what it could have been or has been in the past years. Some felt there should have been more rides; others felt that the traffic in Paw Paw was actually worse because the festival people had to come back to the wineries from Hartford. One student stated that it didn't feel like our wine festival."



8th graders enjoying the last of the good weather for

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS SOON

The six weeks ends today. The report cards will be out next week and with them, students will know if they would be eligible to run for student council.

What is student council? For the benefit of sixth graders unfamiliar with student councils and also as information for the rest of you, student council is the organization that plans the student activities and makes suggestions for changes and improvements that will be good for the middle school as a whole.

The election of officers will be coming up soon. If you want to run for an office there are five offices to run for: ambassador, treasurer, secretary, vice president, and president.

What the ambassador does is visit the office, communicates with Mr. Brill, and
(see p. 3)

Kyle's Corner

This year begins. Welcome back and hello to the newcomers- the sixth grade. As some of you recall, I'm sure, the sixth graders always get the guff from the seventh and eighth, who, when younger, also had to take flack from the other students. So, be kinder to your younger fellow students, and have a good school year.

Oh, by the way, before I forget to mention it, would you like to join the Good Times newspaper? Good! Then drop on into Ms. Ruggles' room and tell her. We always need lots of help. (as you can see as you read on.)

KC

THE GOOD TIMERS-

Editor : Kyle Caldwell
 News editors : Monica Barker, Diane Zalewski , Debbie Terrell
 Feature editors: Carl Erickson, Denice Noble, Carol Boley, Nita Ricketson
 Sports: Sonny Richmond, Scott Hall,
 Sales: Marty Root
 Reporters: Craig Vandenberg, Richard Carlson, Rhonda Barker, Anna Davis, Rene Giuzio, Jill Terrill, Mindy Racette, Teresa Quick, Debbie Haefner, James Turas, Laura Turas, Audrey Hudson, Jackie Davis, Alan Richmond, Carl Marcelletti, Kim McDowell, Patty Ross , Ed McKee,
 Art: Laura Turas, James Turas

GOOD TIMES ADVISOR

Dear Good Times Advisor,

I have a popularity problem. People around me do not care to speak to me. I've tried to act nice and cool toward everyone but it doesn't work. One time I remember acting like Rock Hudson but that didn't work either. What should I do?

Darn Desperate

Dear D.D.,

I would suggest being nice again and giving your best to be yourself. Don't try to buy friendship either. That only makes you go broke.

Please bring all advice requests to room 103. The names will not be printed. We're here to help.

CRAFT & HOBBY NEWS

Macrame. "I never heard of it." That's what some people say. To those of you who don't know what macrame means, it is a system or design consisting of different kinds of knots.

Macrame dates back several centuries. Sailors used all sorts of knots for tying boats to docks. Many of these knots were macrame knots.

Some knots used in macrame are the square knot, lark's head, the half hitch, and the double half-hitch.

Did you know that when you tie your shoe, that first half of the knot is a macrame knot? It's true.

You can buy macrame string and beads at some of these stores: Frank's Nursery in Kalamazoo, The Artist Tree in Kalamazoo, and American Handicrafts in Maple Hill Mall.

by K. M.

METRIC TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

The metric system has three standard units, the meter, the gram, and the liter. There are also six prefixes which are listed below with their meanings.

Kilo- means multiply by 1000
 Hecto - means multiply by 100
 Deca - means multiply by 10
 Deci- means divide by 10
 Centi- means divide by 100
 Milli - means divide by 1000

The meter is the standard unit for length. The gram is the standard unit for weight, and the liter is the standard for capacity.

by L. Turas

NATURE and ENERGY and YOU

Hello from your nature nut. I will attempt to give you helpful hints on how to consume energy wisely. This month I would like to tell you that winter is coming, and since you naturally will need more heat, please set your heater or furnace at 65.

A. H.

(continued from p. 1- Student Council)

brings information to the principal and student council. He/she acts to keep both parties informed.

The treasurer keeps amounts of money, counts money collected and raised, and must keep accurate records. She/he must be able to do arithmetic.

The secretary writes down notes and may send letters for the student council. He/she reports at each meeting what went on at the last meeting so that they have good records.

The vice president stands by the president in case he/she is absent or dismissed from the council.

The president is the head of the council, and she/he makes decisions with the whole council. The president also runs the meetings.

The representatives are chosen from classes and they bring information to the council about what their classmates want done and tell the class what the council is doing.

Warning to perspective council members; your grades must be C+ and above and your citizenship must be good to stay on or get elected to council.

by Carl Erickson

WE WANT TO KNOW...

What's your opinion of having gym class with boys and girls together? How is it different from last year? We'd like your reactions. Send your opinions to room 103. Drop them off with Ms. Ruggles.

D.Z.

FACULTY FOCUS: Mrs. NITZ

Each issue we interview a teacher or two to let you know them better. This month the roving reporter, Nita Ricketson, interviewed Mrs. Nitz, 7th and 8th grade math teacher.

Mrs. Nitz is married and has three children. She has a bachelor of science degree. Her hobbies are swimming, biking, gardening, and reading, sewing, and skiing. She has been at the middle school in the past subbing. She enjoys teaching math and reading.

Favorite color: orange

Favorite animal: cat

Favorite food: lasagne

Favorite singer: Carole King

Favorite sport: baseball

Favorite subjects: math and reading

SPOTLIGHT: MR. SNELL

Carol Boley interviewed Mr. Snell, a 7th grade social studies teacher. Mr. Snell's favorite colors are brown and green.

Favorite animal: dog, maybe

Favorite food: steaks, milk shakes

Favorite song: Stardust

Favorite female singer: Doris Day

Favorite male singer: Bing Crosby

Favorite subjects: history, football, sailing

The roving reporter is off again to find out other teachers' interests.

FALL INTO FASHION

The current fall fashions for girls include the pullover wool sweater with jeans, and the cowl neck blouse. Boys are again wearing the jeans we are all comfortable in and flannel shirts or rugby shirts.

A.H.

FOOTBALL ROCKETS INTO SEASON

Rocket football is again beginning its season. Over seventy boys are involved in the program. Three teams are made up of middle schoolers, who went up against Vicksburg last week, and play a tough schedule with two-three hour practices several nights a week for the next month or so.

On the Raiders' team are Rocky Sherburn, Rick Counterman, Joe Tovas, Mike Stuart, Chris Jones, Lars Holter, Richie Dietz, Kenny Dietz, Jim Bare, Jim Duelly, Scott Brill, Tom Thomas, Vince Roger, Mike Hartman, Ron Doperalski, Chris Allen, Mark Bankston, Kevin Bertermann, Randy Begiman, Russ Haywood, and Brad Curtis. The coaches are Gary Mitchell, Dave Young, and Tom Underwood.

Gary Yarbrough coaches the Cardinals. Paul Schincariol, Joe Snowaert, Mike Wunderlich, Larry Kinter, Bill Wright, Brad Brooks, Todd, Barkovich, Craig Curtis, Matt Schmitt, Pat Brennan, Paul Imus, Lon Wheatley, Stacey Gyrmathy, Daniel Brill, Frank Germaine, Paul Abnet, Todd Conklin, Phil Holcomb, Tim South, Dan Agrams, Tim Lipp, Greg Dillon, Ernest Arter, Dan Belson, Joe Cronk, Jeff Montgomery, Pat Rowley, and Tover Johnson are the team members.

Brian Rosema, Terry Rosema, Mike Terry, Jay Clark, Clair Carr, Dave Meconi, Scott Hall, Steve Berner, Calvin Ragan, Robert ~~Gyracher~~, Joe Depierre, Howard Capone, Randy Nott, Kevin Stevens, Gary Goodwin, Damiano Romo, make up the team known as the Rams. Also on the Rams are J.D. McKenzie, Keith Harris, Robert Ampey, Marty Albar, Tom Garland, and Kevin Wiss.

MUSIC CURIOSITY? by S. H.

Hi! You like music? Great. If you have questions or statements about music you would like the truth about, write me a letter and I'll print the answer as soon as possible. Remember, your name need not be printed unless you want it to be. Just drop off your letters to room 103, Ms. Ruggles' room, and she will pass them on to me.

RR

What's your favorite show?

This month our ever-daring and persistent reporters were out asking 6th, 7th, and 8th graders for their opinions on their favorite tv shows. "What was their favorite and why?" was the question asked by Patty Ross, Mindy Racette, Nita Ricketson, Rhonda Barker, Jill Terrill, Debbie Haefner, Teresa Quick, Carol Boley, and Jackie and Anna Davis.

Mrs. Mahanty said "60 Minutes", while John Puglsley preferred "Happy Days" because he liked the characters. Gail Lindeback enjoys "Charlie's Angels". She says they "solve mysteries." Rich Conway would agree with her but because "I like Jaclyn Smith." Mary Cox's favorite is "Starsky and Hutch" because they are good actors, and I think Starsky is good-looking." Elaine Wilson agreed with Mary and says she "thinks they're cute." Jason Fadel also voted for "Charlie's Angels" because I like the girls." Carl Tokarchick and Ken Mettler agreed with Jason but gave their reason for liking the "Angels" a lot of action." Jenny Nondorf likes "The Hardy Boys/ Nancy Drew Mysteries" because of the Hardy boys. They're cute." Scott Brill voted "Operation Petticoat" his favorite because of the 'chicks'." Mrs. Burchard said she liked "Barnaby Jones". "I like Buddy Epsen." Jackie Davis chose "Starsky and Hutch" because "it's very comical and they are good actors. I like Hutch the way toher people like Donny Osmond." Hope Cox says she enjoys "The Brady Bunch" because "it reminds me of family problems and how to handle them." Mr. Lutz says he likes "Mash" because of the silly people and it's a crazy television show." Larry Derisher enjoys "Happy Days". "I like the Fonz." Connie Weston's choice is "Little House on the Prairie" and she likes "the characters." Mrs. Kovach's favorite is "All in the Family". Mr. Ruesink likes "Mash" and "Laverne and Shirley", "because in Laverne and Shirley I like Squiggly."

(Continued p. 5)

OPINIONS : TV SHOW FAVORITES (continued from p. 4)

Marty Root's favorite show is Charlie's Angels although Marty declares "I don't know why. It must be something on the show."

Jason Smith enjoyed the movie Dirty Harry.

Debbie Terrell likes Starsky and Hutch "because I like exciting shows."

Brenda Danger's choice was The Hardy Boys because "I like dumb mysteries."

Mrs. Cusomano's favorite was "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" "because it's funny."

Susie Smith's choice was Welcome Back Kotter. She says "I like Arnold."

Gary Jacobs enjoys Baa Baa Black Sheep because "they are true stories."

Pam Barich also enjoys Welcome Back Kotter as does Tammy H.

Melanie Hudson likes My Three Sons after school. "It makes me happy."

Tracy McNeil's favorite is Happy Days because "I like the fifties."

There you have it. Middle Schoolers' choices seem to match the ratings very closely.

8th & 7th Girls Begin Season

Girls basketball at the middle school got under way Friday, September 23, with a rough game against Allegan.

The girls lost in both the seventh and the eighth grade match, but they came back determined as they prepared to meet the Vicksburg girls last Tuesday night in Vicksburg.

A victory of 37-35 belonged to the eighth graders after a challenging game against a tall, tough team. Jill Stiglich was high point person with 15 pts. while Sandy Austin made 14 points.

The seventh grade girls fought a close battle only to lose by a small margin of 22-18 to Vicksburg.

Wednesday the teams went up against Decatur. The 8th grade won 20-18 in

a closely fought game. Congratulations! The 7th grade was 19-40, with Decatur winning.

Fractured Fairy Tales: Jensen's

There once was a slave who had all the riches in the world. Now he was so rich he had the King as his slave. Usually you think of a rich person as a real fox. But this rich slave was a gross-out. He had zits and the greasies and none of the foxy maidens liked him. He couldn't even get a date with a dog, or a cat either for that matter.

So he decided to have a real swinging masquerade party and invite everyone. He thought if he put on a costume and no one could see him, he might get a girl-friend. However, this move failed, too. The party was a bomb; no one came.

Finally, he decided to go get a female frog from some nearby pond. His plan was to kiss her and see if she'd become a princess who be eternally grateful and maybe even faithful forever. He found his frog and kissed her, er, it. Then he turned into a frog.

The moral is - If you can't kiss 'em, join 'em.

by D. Noble

Puzzle Time

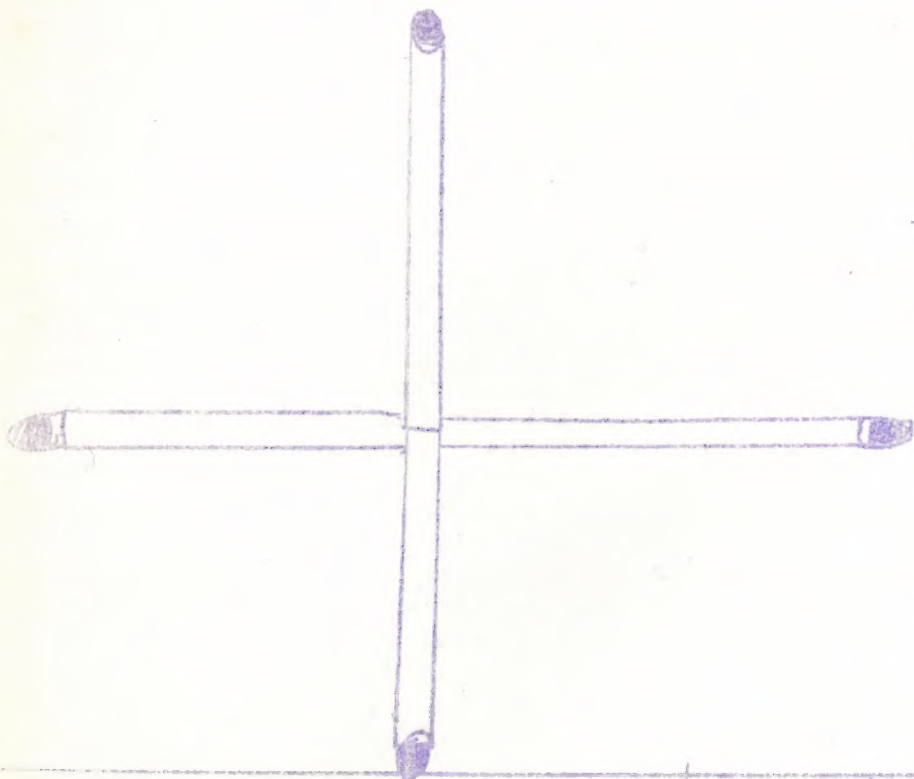
There once was a farmer who was traveling back home from a trip to market. His faithful dog had been with him on the trip. At the market, the farmer bought a rooster and some grain. Everything was fine until the farmer came to the river where he had left his rowboat.

The boat was still there, but the farmer's problem was this: He could take only one item with him as he rowed across the river to the other side. If he took the dog with him on the first trip across, the rooster would eat the grain. If he took the grain, then the dog would eat the rooster. He thought for awhile. Of course, he should take the rooster across first because the dog would not eat the grain. How did he plan the rest of the trips so that he would still have his rooster, the dog, and the grain safely on the other side of the river? (Plan the trips to be as short and safe as possible.) See the back of this page for the answer.

L. T.

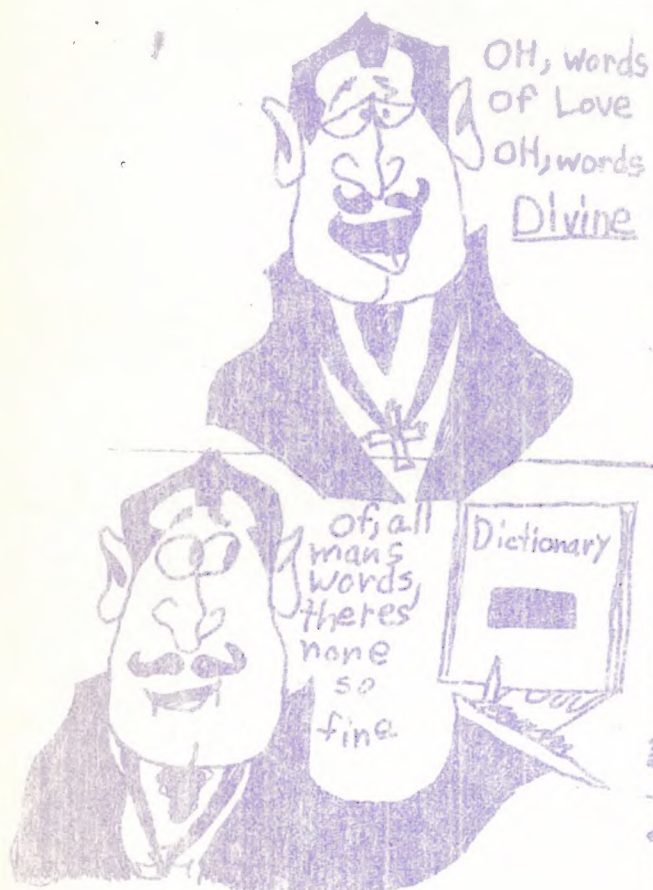
Went to the Raiders last night. Vicksburg 26-18. 3rd going back to school.

Matchstick Puzzle



Take 4 matches as shown here, and move only one of them to form a square.

(Answer in the November issue)



Picture by James Tullis